

From: Bhushan mudbhary [<mailto:bhushan.mudbhary@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2006 1:56 PM
To: MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov
Subject: MLPAComments: Commentary for support for Package#2

My name is Bhushan Mudbhary.

I have been an avid diver in the local waters of Monterrey and Carmel Bay since 1998. I am also part of the San Francisco Reef Divers, a diving club that has been in existence for the last 30 years in San Francisco and has enriched the lives of many local divers by organizing various club dives in Monterrey and Carmel. Club members can be found in Monterrey and Carmel almost every week of the year. As such, we have been a source of revenue for the local dive and none dive related businesses in the area.

I support an unbroken State Marine Reserve from the Breakwater to Lovers Point. This contiguous area would also include the Hopkins Deep Reef. I strongly feel that this level of protection is urgently required if we are to have any chance of protecting this world class treasure for now and for future generations.

I think that no-take marine reserves make a lot of sense. They have been proven in countless studies to protect marine biodiversity and marine population density. Additionally, they also enhance the long term viability of non-protected areas, to the benefit of the sports and commercial fishing users.

Package #2 will keep in place as well as enhance a world class system of marine reserves and other conservation areas around Pacific Grove and Carmel. Point Lobos, Yankee Point and the entire Pinnacles area will be protected.

While I am submitting this comment as a "diving" and non-extracting stakeholder of the local marine resources of Monterrey and Carmel Bay, I believe that the protection in perpetuity of the marine life living in this area will provide enjoyment and resources for not just divers but other users of the area whose enjoyment and often livelihood is dependent on a healthy marine environment.

Cheers
Bhushan Mudbhary
Member
San Francisco Reef Divers